

CEMETERIES

Repairs planned for crematorium's chimneys

DUXBURY — The two oldest chimney stacks at the Mayflower Cemetery crematorium, damaged in a fire last month, will be replaced beginning next week.

On June 4, heat radiating through the stacks ignited exterior wood that had dried out over the years, according to fire officials.

Two of the crematorium's four stainless steel stacks were damaged and will be replaced by Crematory Manufacturing and Service Inc., the Oklahoma company that built the facility.

DUXBURY

The work is to begin July 22 and should take several weeks to complete, said Walter Tonaszuck, the town's public works director.

It will cost the town \$19,300.

The Mayflower Cemetery crematorium is the only one in the state run by a municipality.

Its two oldest stacks are about 18 years old; the other two were added about eight years ago, Tonaszuck said.

The fire damage has cut the number of cremations that can be performed roughly in half, he said.

The number of cremations done at the cemetery has been increasing steadily in recent years: 1,888 in 1995; 2,100 in 1996; 2,282 in 1997; and more than 2,300 last year.

"We do more cremations than anyone on the Eastern Seaboard," Tonaszuck said.